

**Findings of the Alaska Board of Game
2004-151-BOG**

**Finding regarding Bear Baiting Allocation
March 10, 2004**

The Alaska Board of Game hereby finds that the board is tasked with and responsible for the allocation of the wildlife resources of the State of Alaska,

Black bears have proved to be a popular species for hunting and viewing via a number of methods, including baiting, across the State,

Population and harvest objectives for species important for human use, particularly for food, may be attainable without drastic bear control measures if a considerable number of bears are taken by bear baiters,

Approximately 650 black bears are currently harvested over bait in Alaska each year,

The harvest of black bears using bait has important economic benefits to the state including business for guide/outfitters and transporters, taxidermy, tanning, sale of handicraft items, sale of equipment for both archery and firearm hunters and more directly, from the sale of licenses and tags by the state,

The Boards of Fisheries and Game routinely allocate fish and game resources to user groups which are based upon the method of take.

The Alaska Board of Game has allocated at least 1,000 bears to bear baiters, for harvest in eighteen (18) Game Management Units across the state where regulations have been developed specifically to allow for such harvest.

Vote: 7/0
March 10, 2004
Fairbanks, Alaska

Mike Fleagle, Chair
Alaska Board of Game